Appln. No. 09/691,968
Amendment dated Mar. 3, 2004
Reply to Office action of Dec 2, 2003
Docket No. 6169-137

IBM Docket No. BOC9-1998-0079

Amendments to Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 7 with the following amended paragraph.

In another aspect of the present invention, the method can further include transmitting update notifications over the second communications connection to the configuration client. In particular, the update notifications can notify the configuration client of application component updates as the updates become available in the configuration server. Additionally, the step of transmitting update notifications over the second connection can include packetizing the update notifications according to the ~~universal datagram protocol~~User Datagram Protocol (UDP); and transmitting the UDP packets to the configuration client. That is, update notifications can be packetized into datagrams that can be conveyed from the configuration server to the configuration client. Finally, in yet another aspect of the present invention, the configuration server can be an LDAP server. Accordingly, the method can include storing the application component updates in an LDAP-based database in the LDAP server.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 20 with the following amended paragraph.

In one aspect of the present invention, the configuration server can be an LDAP server. In another aspect of the present invention, the active application components can be instances of ~~Java~~JAVA (henceforth Java) classes. In yet another aspect of the present invention, the configuration client can include a notifier object and a listener interface. In consequence, the active application components can be configured to receive update notifications from the configuration client through the listener interface. Similarly, the configuration server also can include a notifier object and a listener interface. Likewise, the configuration client can be configured to receive update notifications from the configuration server through the listener interface.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 6 with the following amended paragraph.

As shown in Figure 2, the configuration client 202 can be managed separately from the platform 203. Moreover, in one aspect of the invention, the configuration client 202 can be implemented as a ~~Java Bean~~JAVA BEAN (henceforth Java Bean). In consequence, the configuration client 202 Java

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Bean implementation can be reused by other applications. Notably, the platform 203 can be a Java-based platform for managing application components 205. As such, the platform 203 can behave as an object request broker (ORB) for the various application components 205 installed on the platform 203.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 10 with the following amended paragraph.

In response to the initial inquiry 322, the configuration server 301 can return a response containing a list of client application component types to be installed in the platform 303. In one embodiment, a separate inquiry 324 can specify data within the configuration server 301 that is to be provided to the platform 303. Subsequently, the configuration client 302 can cycle through the list of client application component types and can issue corresponding secondary inquiries 328 and 332 for each of the application component types defined, in order to retrieve related client configuration data. The responses to the secondary inquiries 328, 332 can contain executable modules for the application components 305A, 305B, 305C. To complete this initial stage, an enumeration 338 of the responses from the configuration client 302 can be returned to the platform 303. The configuration client 302 can convey an instruction to close 336 the communication connection with the configuration server 301 once initialization tasks have been performed.

Please add the following new paragraph immediately after the above paragraph and before the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 19.

It should be noted that different application components may need to be installed within the platform 303 in a serial fashion. That is, the installation of particular application components can require other components to have already been installed and/or activated. Therefore, the configuration client 302 can submit instructions to the configuration server 301 detailing an order in which inquires are to be handled. For example, a serialization instruction 326 can specify that inquiry 324 is to be processed before inquiry 328; a serialization instruction 330 can specify that inquiry 328 is to be processed before inquiry 332; and, a serialization instruction 334 can specify that inquiry 328 is to be processed before closing 336 the communication connection.

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